



Environmental Protection

within
Grafenwoehr Training Area



Military Training Support



Environmental Awareness



Natural Resources



Threatened & Endangered Species

US Army Garrison Grafenwoehr, Environmental Division

Winner of the "FY06 Secretary of
the Army Environmental Award for
Environmental Quality –
Overseas Installation"



Who are we?

The Environmental Division of the Grafenwoehr Training Area works under the Directorate of Public Works of the US Army Garrison Grafenwoehr. The Division started with one Environmental Engineer in 1979 and has since then grown to 19 employees who are specialists for hazardous waste, technical environmental protection, chemical matters and natural resource protection. We are the POC for environmental questions for commanders of military units, German authorities, US family members and Host nation representatives. We closely work together with other Army organizations and with the Federal Forest Office.

Our Motto

“Make Environmental Protection Easy!”

We provide the technical and biological infrastructure for the performance of an effective and realistic military training in compliance with U.S. and German environmental laws and regulations.



What do we do?



Protecting Soil, Air and Water and Supporting the Training Mission

- Project support
- Provision of a realistic training environment (erosion control)
- Hazardous material/ waste management
- Ground and surface water monitoring



Threatened & Endangered Species

- Threatened and endangered species surveys
- Threatened and endangered species projects
- European Network "Natura 2000"



Environmental Awareness

- Environmental Management System (EMS) acc. to international standard ISO 14001
- Environmental orientation training and guidance for military personnel
- Participation in exhibits and Earth Week Activities

Protecting Soil, Air and Water and Supporting the Training Mission



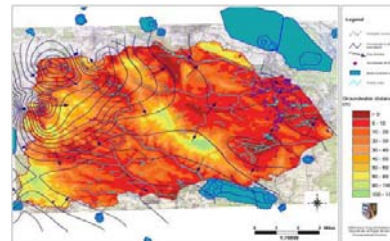
Provide Project Support

When new projects are planned on the training area the environmental office closely coordinates with US and German authorities. Environmental staff provide GIS-based data on threatened and endangered species, geology and soil data, groundwater data and information about contaminated sites. They use these data to assess the environmental impact of a project or provide these data to planners and authorities.

We are also involved in detailed coordination of compensation projects or we execute such projects with our own staff.



New Sports Complex



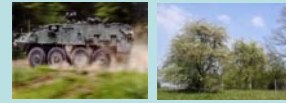
Groundwater Data



Compensation Project in the vicinity of the
Grafenwoehr suburb Geismanskeller - 2005



Protecting Soil, Air and Water and Supporting the Training Mission



Provide a Realistic Training Environment by Integrated Training Area Management



Retention basins (top) and reseeding

Erosion Control

Until the mid 1990ies military training caused severe soil erosion in some areas. Targeted actions resulted in a once again green training area.

- Retention basins
- Restriction of erosion sensitive areas to military training by special markers ("Seibert"- Stakes)
- Soil de-compaction
- Reseeding

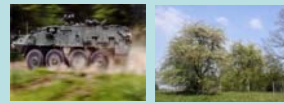
Geographic Information System (GIS)



GIS-Karte

Several US organizations and divisions closely work together in the development of a Geographic Information System (GIS). This system provides planning levels for trainers, for planners and other stakeholders.

Protecting Soil, Air and Water and Supporting the Training Mission



Hazardous Material and Hazardous Waste Management

Especially when performing vehicle maintenance hazardous materials like lubricants, anti-freeze or solvents are used. These hazardous substances are stored and after use disposed of in accordance with legal requirements.

A tight network of more than 150 hazardous waste accumulation points throughout the training area and a hazardous waste removal contract make it easy for the soldiers to protect the environment and fulfill their military mission.



Hazardous material storage (top)
Hazardous waste accumulation point (bottom)

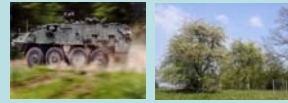
Refueling and Maintenance Areas / Washracks

A total of 60 refueling and maintenance areas throughout the training area provided with a special surface sealing and connection to oil/water separators are available for refueling and maintenance activities. These facilities considerably reduce the number of spills and still enable the soldier to train in a realistic environment.

Tanks and tank vehicles can be cleaned on six “multi-purpose” wash racks. A sludge treatment facility reduces the hydrocarbon of sludge resulting from wash rack operations.



Refueling area (top)
Recycling-wash rack (bottom)



Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring



Fish sampling (left),
Surface water sampling (mid) and
Groundwater monitoring well (right)

More than 200 groundwater monitoring wells on the training area and 22 around the previous sanitary landfill Haderbühl guarantee that the quality of groundwater is kept clean. Surface water samples of eight rivers/creeks and 20 lakes are taken on a regular basis. In addition fish samples are examined every two or three years for heavy metals. All these measures guarantee that the surface and ground water resources stay clean.

Monitoring of Toxic Substances

There are programs to monitor and remove toxic substances such as

- asbestos
- radon
- lead based paint
- other substances as necessary



Lead test

Threatened & Endangered Species Protection



Military training creates open landscapes and thus provides optimum living conditions for various endangered species of flora and fauna because of:

- very limited application of pesticides and fertilizers
- all stages of succession
- retreat areas for threatened and endangered species due to restricted access for the public

Our tasks include:

- Performance of threatened and endangered species surveys
- Special responsibility for areas designated under the European Community Directive “Natura 2000”
- Planning and implementation of threatened and endangered species protection projects



Golden oriole

Samples of species protection projects



Re-naturalized creek



Nesting place for kingfisher



Water avens

Environmental Awareness



Organization and Presentation of Awareness Training for the Military

- Dealing with hazardous substances
- Guidance for environmental protection under training conditions
- Avoidance of oil spills and emergency response
- Generation of environmental specific operating instructions



Environmental Awareness Training

Activities and Events for the Public

- Exhibitions
- Guided tours in the training area
- Annual “Earth Week” Activities
- Information of public stakeholders



“Land Combat Expo” in Heidelberg

Environmental Home Page

http://www.grafenwoehr.army.mil/usag_dpw/

Current Information on all services and work areas provided by the Directorate of Public Work and the Environmental Division.



Home Page – USAG Grafenwoehr
“Directorate of Public Works”

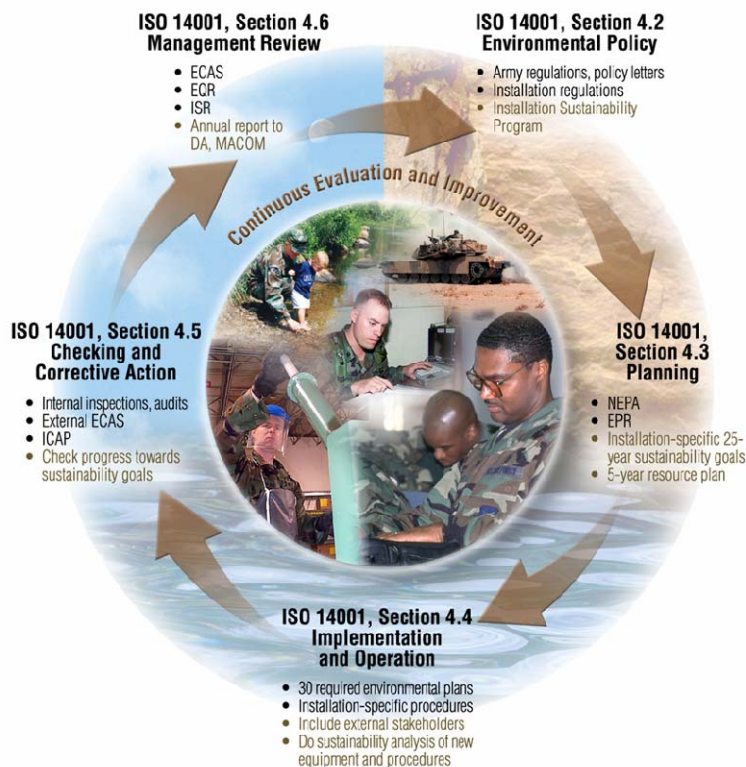
Environmental Awareness



Introduction of an ISO 14001-based Environmental Management System

In 2003/2004 the US Army has started implementing an Environmental Management System (EMS) according to the international ISO 14001 standard on all installations. Environmental protection has thus become a common goal of all organizations and units within the Garrison.

The goal of an EMS to achieve continuous improvement in all Areas of environmental protection.



Our Partners

- Anyone practicing environmental awareness
- Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (CHPPM) Europe
- Corps of Engineers, Europe Division
- EMS Cross Functional Team
- Federal Agency for Real Estate Management (BiMA)
- German Federal Forest Offices
- ITAM – Integrated Training Area Management
- Other DPW Divisions and Branches

Rewards

- | | |
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| • USAREUR Natural Resources Conservation Award | 1993 |
| • Letter of Recognition from the Secretary of the Army | 1998 |
| • Annual Incentive Award for outstanding contribution to the USAREUR Environmental Program | 1996 |
| • Army Environmental Engineer Award | 1999 |
| • CG USAREUR/7A Annual Incentive Award "Team Award" | 2000 |
| • FY 00 Secretary of the Army Environmental Award "Team Award for Environmental Quality" | 2001 |
| • CG USAREUR Annual Incentive Award "Outstanding Contribution to the Army in Europe Environmental Program – Team" | 2006 |
| • FY 06 Secretary of the Army Environmental Award for Environmental Quality – Overseas Installation Team Award | 2007 |



Our Philosophy



“... We must protect the forests, range lands, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources entrusted to our care. Though priority must be given to military missions, we must use and maintain army land and natural resources in a manner that assures its preservation and availability for future generations”.

(Quote from a letter of General Wickham, then U.S. Army Chief of Staff to General Otis, then Commander in Chief, USAREUR in 1986)

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